

JOINT
PUBLIC NOTICE

CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
69A Hagood Avenue
Charleston, South Carolina 29403-5107
and the
S.C. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL
OFFICE OF OCEAN AND COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
1362 McMillan Avenue, Suite 400
Charleston, South Carolina 29405

REGULATORY DIVISION
Refer to: P/N #2006-2441-1ID

October 20, 2006

Pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), which was extended to the seaward limit of the Outer Continental Shelf by Section 4(e) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act of 1953, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1333(e)), and the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Act (48-39-10 et seq.), an application has been submitted to the Department of the Army by the

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (SCDNR)
c/o ARTIFICIAL REEF COORDINATOR
P.O. BOX 12559
CHARLESTON, SC 29422

for an extension of time to continue work at 2 existing artificial fishing reef sites authorized by Department of the Army permits numbered 96-1D-116, 96-1D-361, located in the

ATLANTIC OCEAN

at locations off of the coast of Georgetown and Beaufort Counties, South Carolina. The corresponding names, latitude and longitude for each reef site are identified on the plans attached to this public notice.

In order to give all interested parties an opportunity to express their views

NOTICE

is hereby given that written statements regarding the proposed work will be received by both of the above mentioned offices until

12 O'CLOCK NOON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2006

from those interested in the activity and whose interests may be affected by the proposed work.

The proposed extension will allow the continuation of placing suitable materials on the existing Beaufort 45' Reef site and the Will Goldfinch Reef site constructed and maintained by the SCDNR. The applicant proposes to continue over the next ten years, the addition of structure such as landing craft, steel hulled vessels including trawlers and barges, steel cubes, fish aggregation devices, concrete pipe, subway cars, and other suitable materials and devices to the existing sites for expansion as materials become available. Existing buoys marking the location of the reefs will continue to be maintained in good condition by the applicant. No structure will be added to any reef that is greater in height from the ocean floor, than previously permitted. Approval of these permit extensions will give Federal authorization to add materials

October 20, 2006

to the reef site for a period of ten (10) years. The applicant will be required to present plans for future expansion to the District Engineer for approval prior to accomplishing the work. All work is to be performed in accordance with Federal and State regulations governing such activities at the time the work is undertaken. The purpose of the reef program is to provide habitat for a number of marine finfish species and enhance fishing opportunities for the State's recreational fishermen.

NOTE: Plans depicting the work described in this notice are available and will be provided, upon receipt of a written request, to anyone that is interested in obtaining a copy of the plans for the specific project. The request must identify the project of interest by public notice number and a self-addressed stamped envelope must also be provided for mailing the drawings to you. Your request for drawings should be addressed to the

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: REGULATORY DIVISION
69A Hagood Avenue
Charleston, South Carolina 29403-5107**

The work shown on this application must also be certified as consistent with applicable provisions the Coastal Zone Management Program (15 CFR 930). The District Engineer will not process this application to a conclusion until such certifications are received. The applicant is hereby advised that supplemental information may be required by the State to facilitate the review.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Implementation of the proposed project over the next 10 years would impact approximately 2 acres of ocean bottom associated with estuarine substrates and emergent wetlands utilized by various life stages of species comprising the red drum, shrimp, and snapper-grouper management complexes. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial individual or cumulative adverse impact on EFH or fisheries managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the NMFS.

The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project will have no effect on any Federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species and will not result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated or proposed critical habitat. This public notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed endangered or threatened species or designated or proposed critical habitat may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended).

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), this public notice also constitutes a request to Indian Tribes to notify the District Engineer of any historic properties of religious and cultural significance to them that may be affected by the proposed undertaking.

In accordance with the NHPA, the District Engineer has also consulted the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places for the presence or absence of registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein, and this worksite is not included as a registered property or property listed as being eligible for inclusion in the Register. To insure that other cultural resources that the District Engineer is not aware of are not overlooked, this public notice also serves as a request to the State Historic Preservation Office to provide any information it may have with regard to historic and cultural resources.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the project must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the project will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. A permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest. In cases of conflicting property rights, the Corps of Engineers cannot undertake to adjudicate rival claims.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this project. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the activity.

If there are any questions concerning this public notice, please contact Mr. Dean Herndon at 843-329-8044 or toll free at 1-866-329-8187.

**Proposed artificial reef
permit extension**

Applicant: SCDNR

10-306

Sheet 1 of 9

REQUESTED ARTIFICIAL REEF PERMIT EXTENSIONS

REEF

**PERMIT
NUMBER**

Beaufort 45' Reef

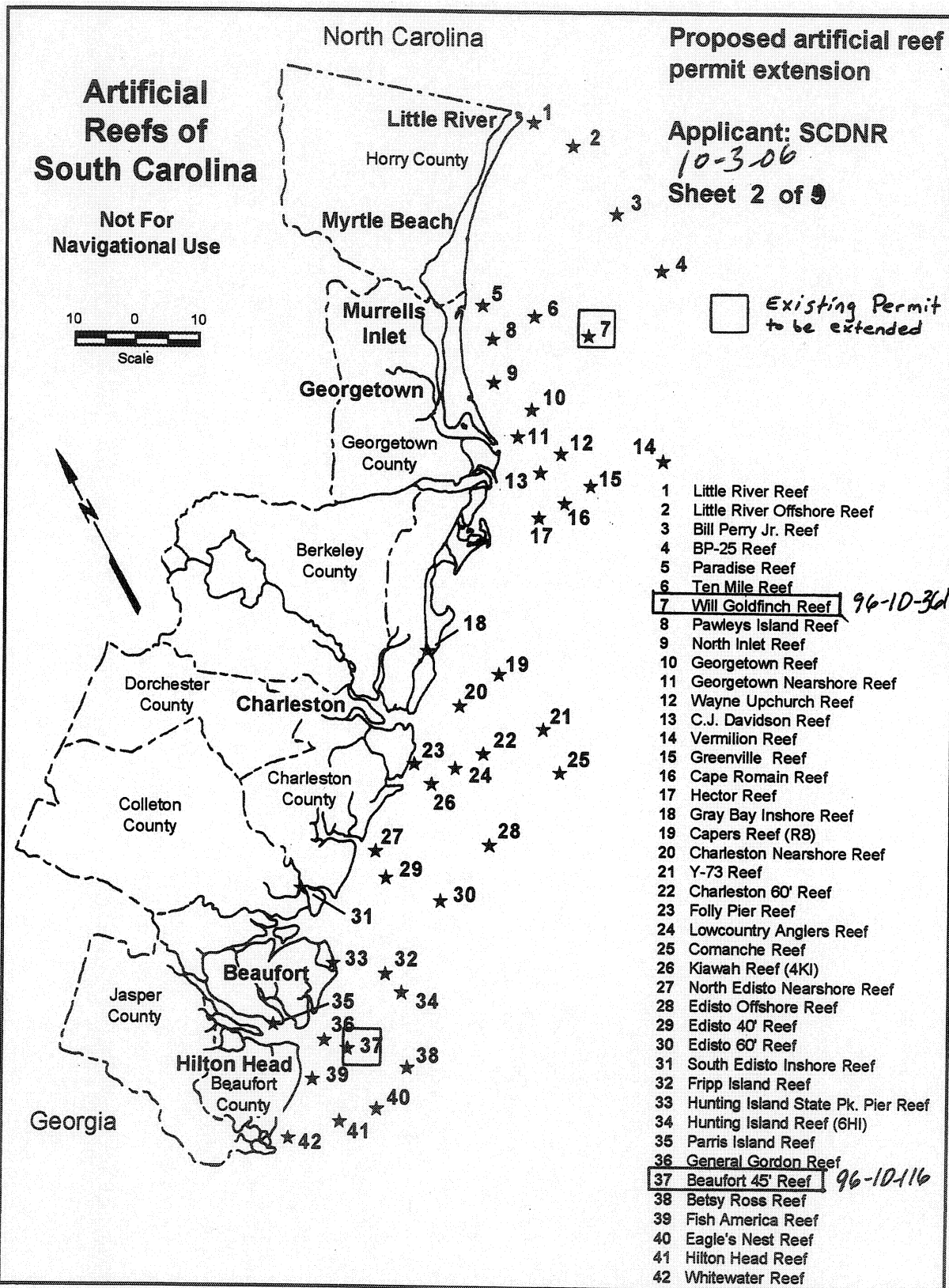
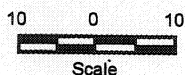
96-1D-116

Will Goldfinch Reef

96-1D-361

Artificial Reefs of South Carolina

Not For
Navigational Use



From NOAA chart 11513

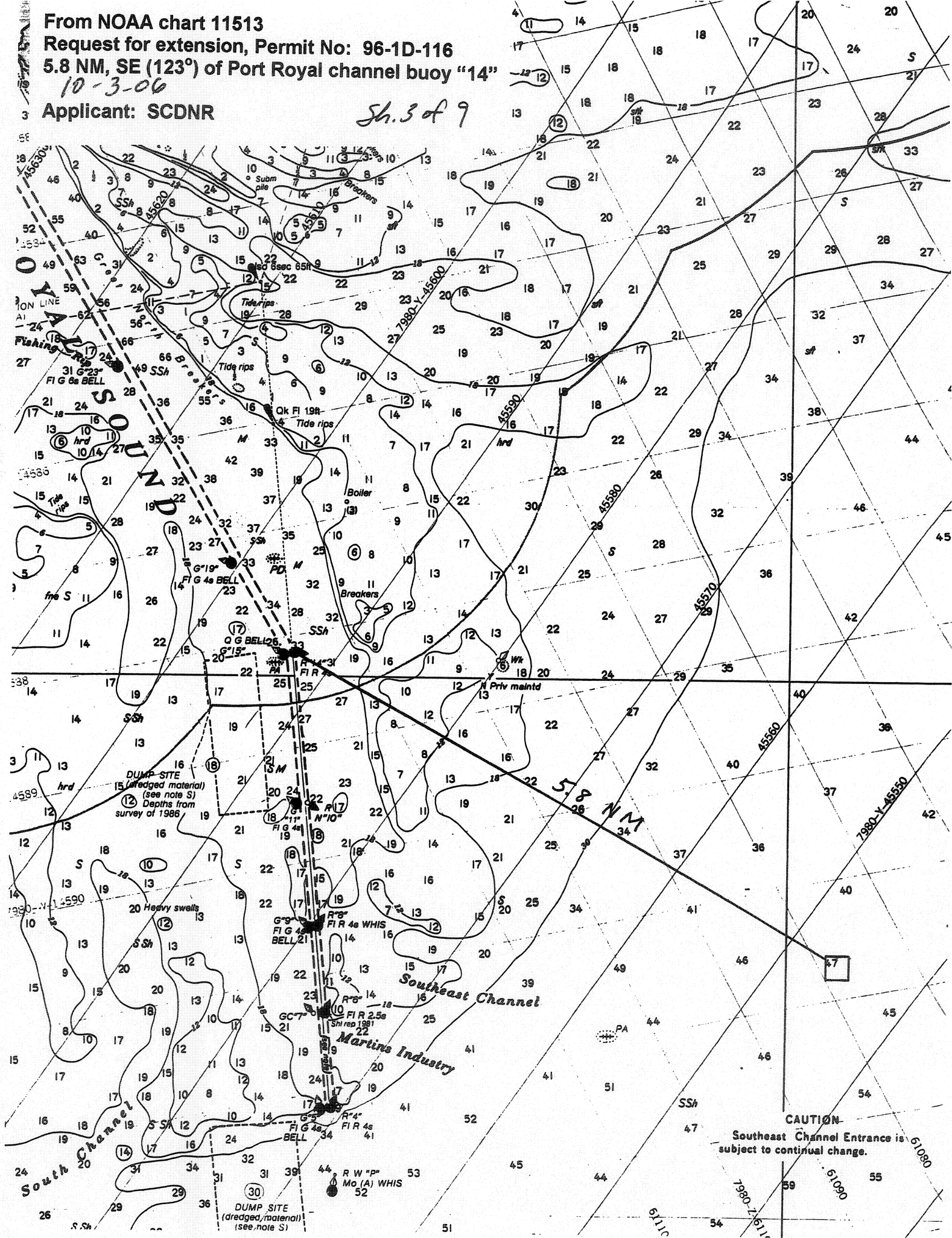
Request for extension, Permit No: 96-1D-116

5.8 NM, SE (123°) of Port Royal channel buoy "14"

10-3-06

Sh. 3 of 9

3 Applicant: SCDNR



10-3-06

South Carolina Artificial Reefs

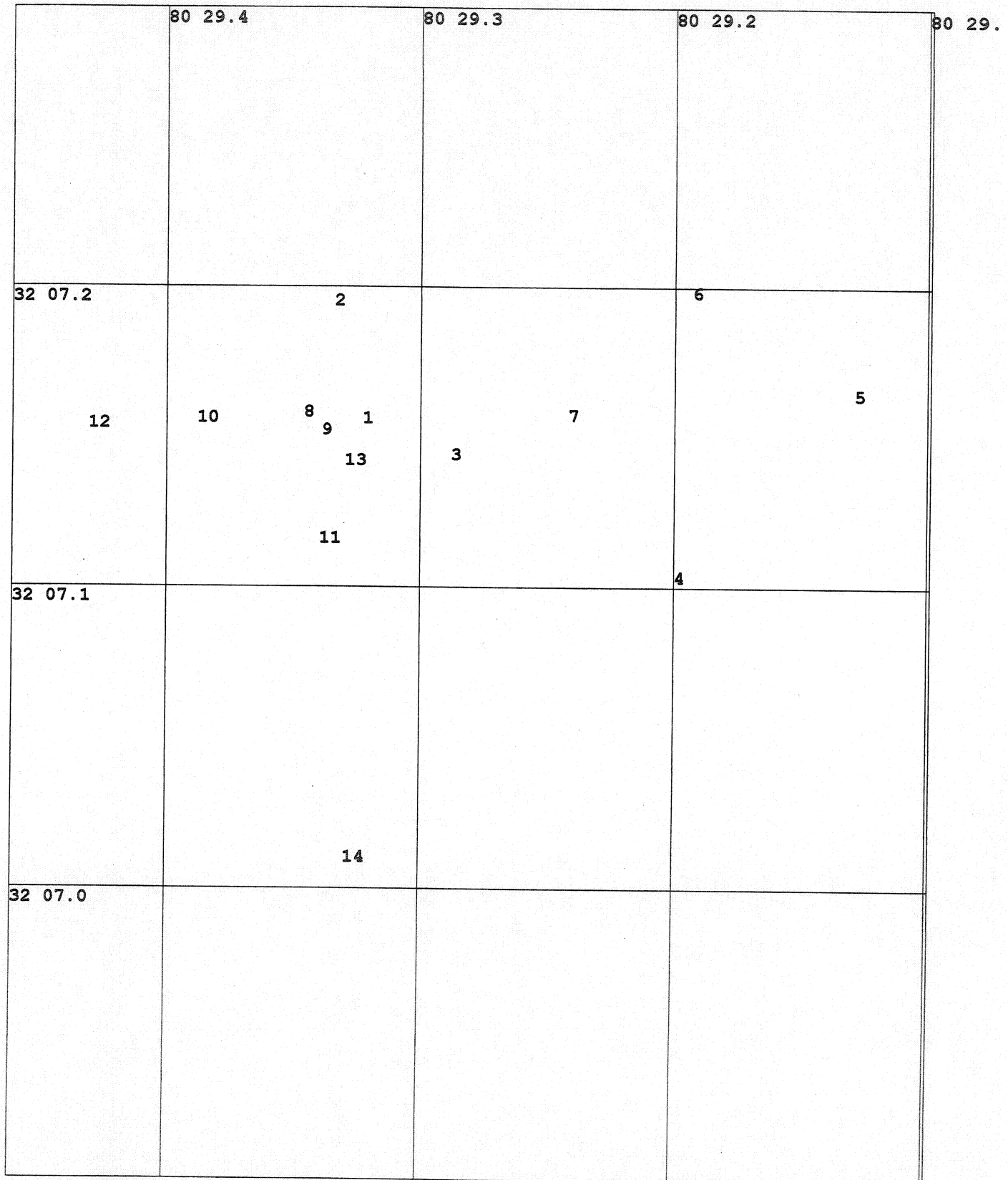
MAP: Instant plot

FILE: BUFRTGPS DATE: 09-18-2006

UPPER LATITUDE 3207.292 LEFT LONGITUDE 8029.461

LOWER LATITUDE 3206.905 RIGHT LONGITUDE 8029.099

Sheet 4 of 9



09-18-2006

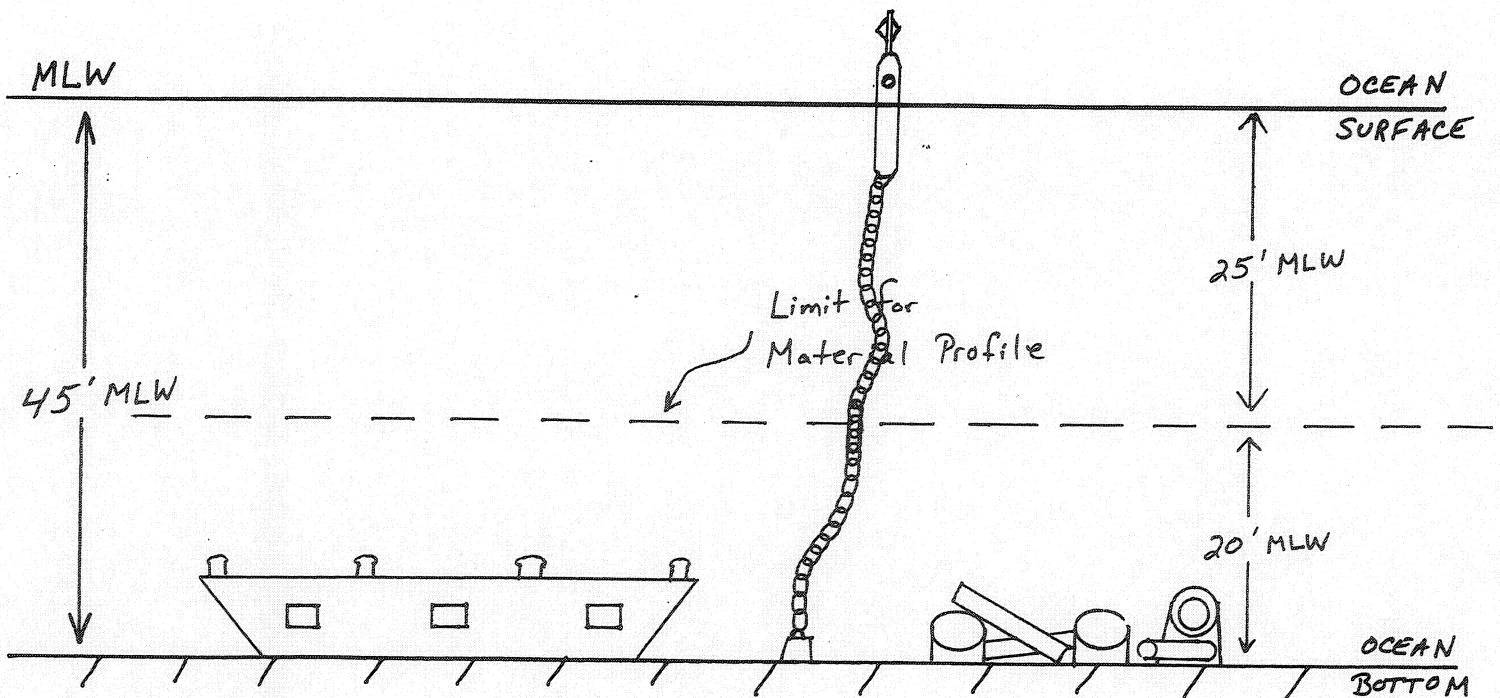
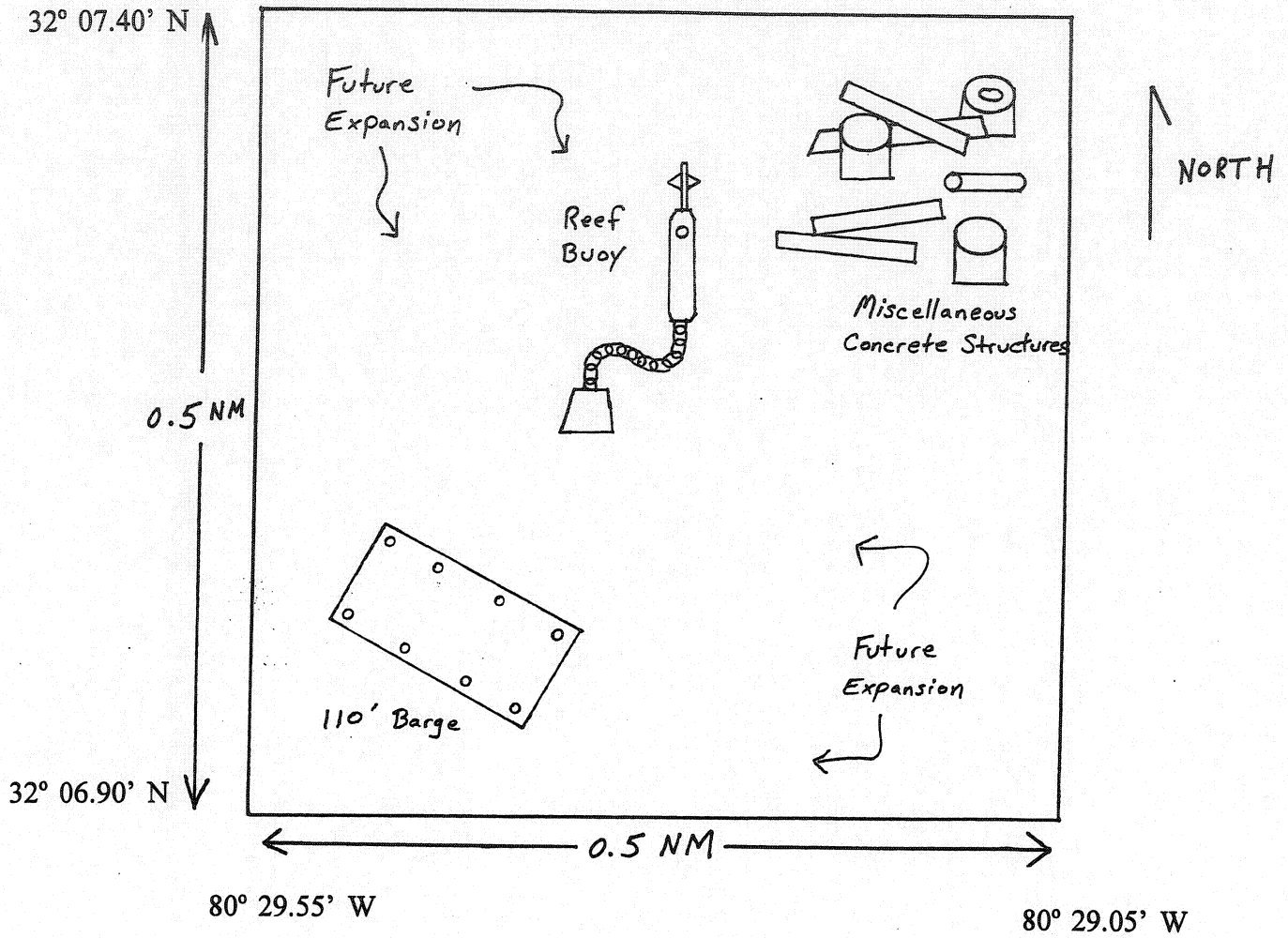
Num	Lat	Lon	Ratg	Description
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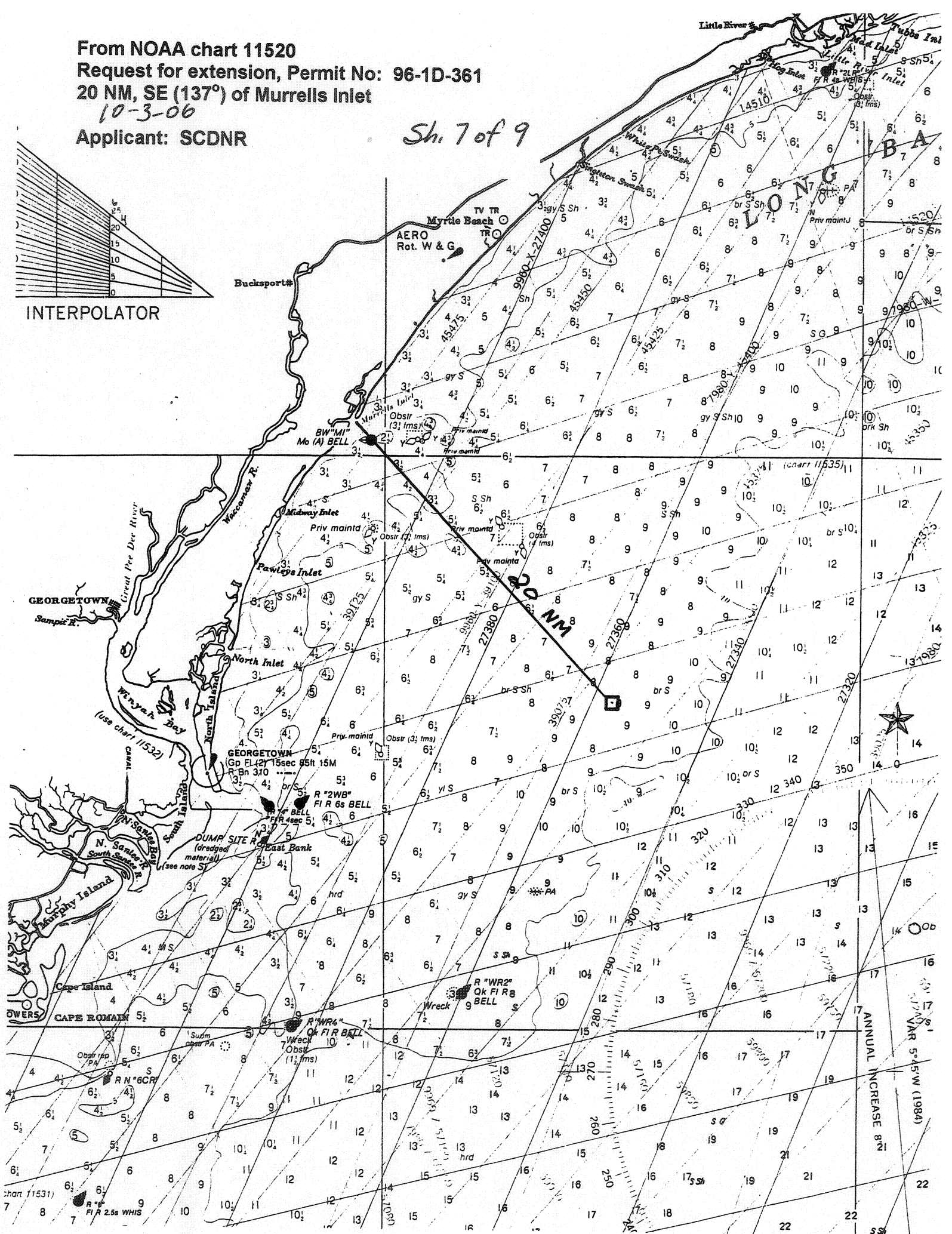
From NOAA chart 11513
Request for extension, Permit No: 96-1D-116
5.8 NM, SE (123°) of Port Royal channel buoy "14"
10-3-06
Applicant: SCDNR

Sh. 6 of 9

Top View



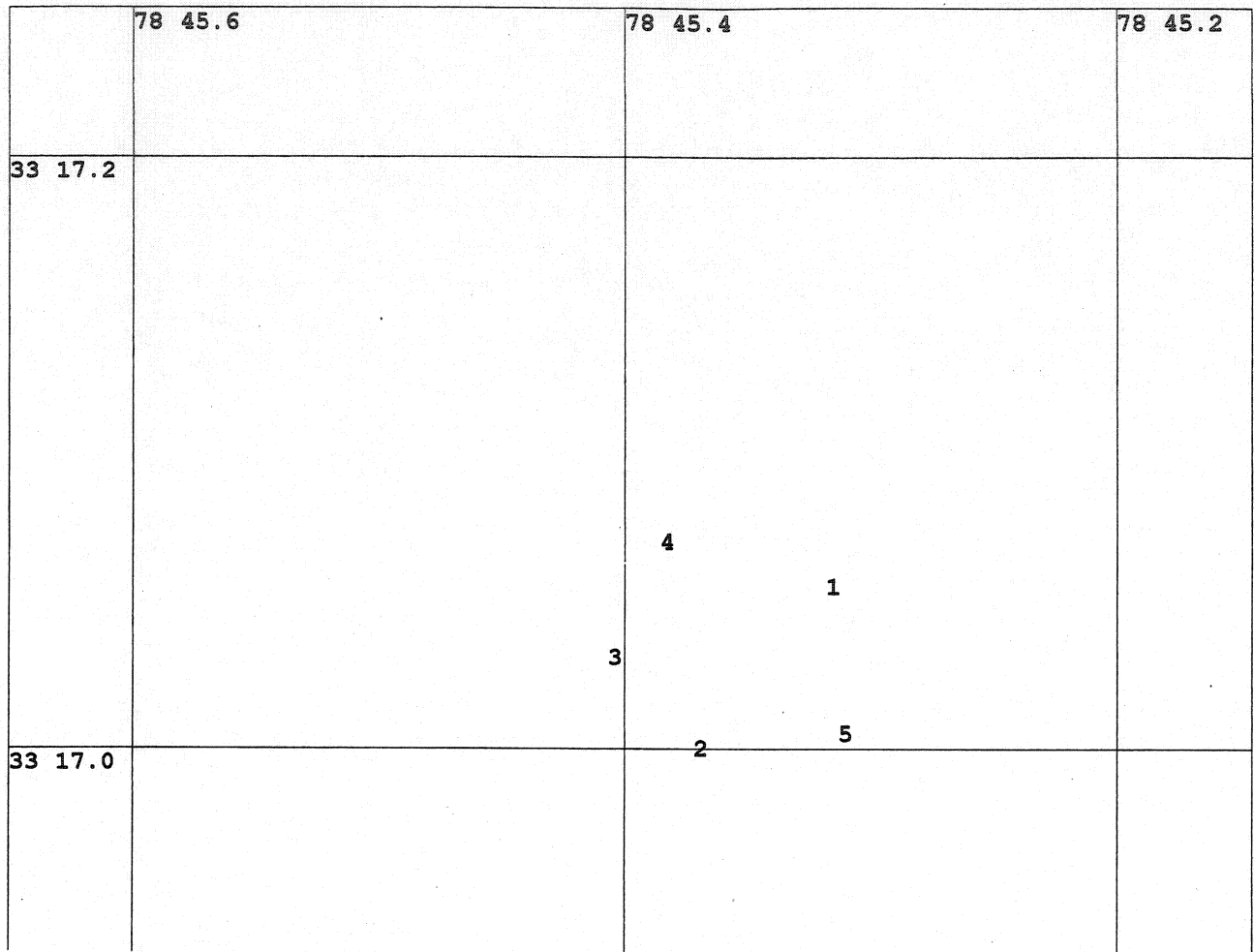
Sh. 7 of 9



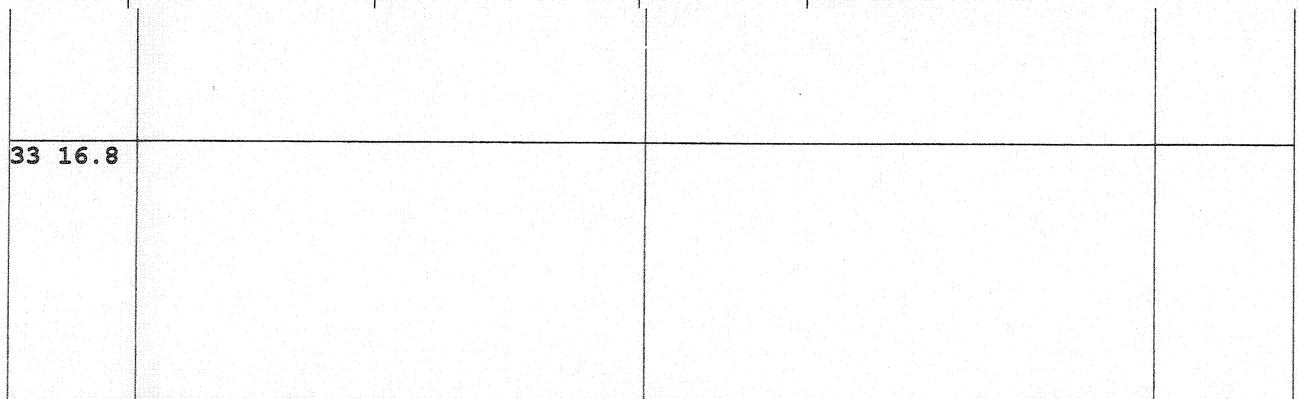
South Carolina Artificial Reefs

MAP: WILLSGPS FILE: WILLSGPS DATE: 09-18-2006 TIME:
 UPPER LATITUDE 3317.250 LEFT LONGITUDE 7845.650
 LOWER LATITUDE 3316.750 RIGHT LONGITUDE 7845.146

Sheet 8 of 9



Num	Lat	Lon	Ratg	Description
1	3317.060	7845.318	BUOY	REEF BUOY
2	3317.005	7845.372	SHIP	175 FT COASTAL TANKER (YO-225)
3	3317.036	7845.407	BARG	120' FUEL BARGE (YON-256)
4	3317.075	7845.386	CONC	CONCRETE Zs
5	3317.010	7845.313	CONC	CONCRETE Zs



Top View

